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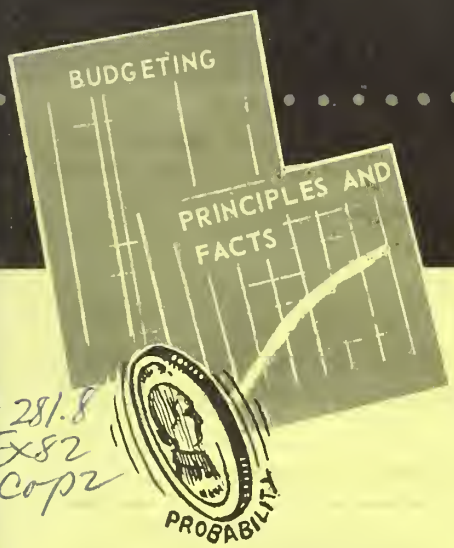

News and Views from the Farm Management Staff

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January 9, 1964

Dear Farm Management Extension Workers:

Feed Grain Program, 1964

This is to call your attention to two points that may be of special significance to numbers of your farmers this year:

1. The payment for diverting 40 percent to 50 percent of the base is substantially higher than the payment for diverting just under 40 percent. Except for this inducement to divert at least 40 percent, the program is much like that of 1963.

2. Feed grain base acres that were included in conservation reserve contracts that expired December 31 are eligible for diversion. The owners of some of this land may not know this. Many of them probably do not know much about what participation would offer and entail.

Agronomists here remind us that yields may be disappointing for pasture or hay as well as other crops on land that has been in a minimal ground cover for several years without additions of fertilizers or lime.

Sign-up period is February 10-March 27. We are helping with parts of a packet (including a budget form for State or local adaptation) that will come to you and your editors and agronomists at an early date.

Personnel Changes

Wallace G. Aanderud joined the staff in South Dakota as extension economist in farm management on Dec. 1, 1963. David A. Brueck was promoted Nov. 16, 1963, from county agricultural agent to agricultural economist, at the University of Arizona. He will work particularly with EDP record project. Reginald K. Harlan, extension farm management specialist in Arkansas, has resigned to undertake a foreign assignment. Troy W. Hinton has joined the staff in Tennessee. He has Vo. Ag. and Extension experience and a Ph.D. at Kentucky. Hugh Liner, extension economist in North Carolina, is on study leave. Fred Olson recently joined the North Dakota extension staff as a farm management economist. Fred, who had been an extension economist at Nebraska since 1959, is a native of Wisconsin, obtained his Ph.D. at Minnesota and also served on the Minnesota extension staff. Hal G. Routhe, Minnesota, has been promoted from

extension economist in farm management, to State Leader, Extension Programs. Many of you are acquainted with the excellent contribution Hal has made to farm management work. Fred Sobering, farm management economist, North Dakota, is on sabbatical leave working on his Ph.D. at Oklahoma State University. Glen J. Vollmar, FES, got his Ph.D. from Ohio State, Dec. 20, 1963.

First Things First

Charles E. French and R. B. Wilson, Purdue, have a 1-page article in the Sept. 1963 issue of Successful Farming, page 70D, "Do You Plan Your Farm Changes Backward?"

Possible Changes in: →

Business Size and Home Goals:	Crop Rotations and Livestock Systems	Crop and Livestock Practices	Farmstead Layout, Buildings and Machinery	Work Methods	Rough Estimate of Savings
Expand to support 3 families.	Intensify cropping on best land. Add acres.	Longer rotations on hill land, continuous corn on best land.	Minimum tillage for corn.	More fall plowing on acres harvested early.	$5,000
	Set up 2 livestock enterprises.	Confinement rearing for hogs.	Modernize crop storage and processing.	Use drying equipment, early harvest.	$6,000
		Set up beef feeding operation.	Remodel old barn into farrowing unit.	Use paved floor with heating system.	$ 600
			Build hog finishing unit.	Consider slats and lagoon for manure removal.	$ 900
			Add paved feed lots, new silo and mechanical feeder.	Consider circular feed bunks.	$ 240
				All mechanical manure handling	$ 300

The illustration shown above is part of the article. You may find uses for your adaptation of it.

This article shows the importance of considering big ideas and main directions in farm changes first --- Board of Director kinds of decisions and changes --- then the little ones.

Professional Development

Two articles in the Journal of Cooperative Extension relate to our efforts toward professional improvement. The first is in the Summer Issue. It is "Role of the Specialist," by T. C. Blalock. The second, in the Fall Issue, is "Work as a Motivator," by D. O. Clegg. Each of you may want, if you haven't already done so, to judge for yourself which of Blalock's and Clegg's findings apply to us as farm management specialists, and to deduce from them ways that we can become more effective.

Very truly yours,

E. P. Callahan

E. P. Callahan
Buel Lanpher
L. M. Vaughan
G. J. Vollmar

Economists - Farm Management